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REPORT PURGES IN CAUCASUS, CENTRAL ASIA;
RUSSIFICATION CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY

PURGE UNIVERSITIES, CULTURAL CENTERS -- Housaper, 20 Aug 51

Extensive purges are taking place in the universities and cultural centers of the Caucasian and Central Asian republics of the USSR. The purpose of these purges is to neutralize nationalistic and racial influences which are still alive. Special emphasis is placed upon the persecution of non-Russian intellectuals, writers, and artists, attributing to them ideological deviations.

In Azerbaydzhan SSR, educators A. Demirdchizade and M. Rafili and author G. Arsali were reprimanded recently by the USSR press. They were accused of popularizing a national epic Dede Korkud, which describes life in Azerbaydzhan during the 11th century. The critics of the epic claim that "it spreads ideas of Pan-Turanism, and glorifies chauvinism and hatred founded upon religious prejudices."

The Ministry of Education, the Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Literature have received warnings from Communist Party organizations, from Pravda, and from the USSR literary press, and have been accused of committing grave political crimes.

In Kazakh SSR, the Communist press criticizes the president of the Academy of Sciences, K. I. Satpayev, accusing him of protecting some of his co-workers who have been infested by bourgeois racial nationalism. He also is blamed for allowing Pegmaghanov, a bourgeois nationalist, to hold a position in the University of Kazakhstan.

In Tadzhik SSR, the Communist press has started a campaign against two musicians, Z. Shahid and U. S. Lenskiy, claiming that their music is ideologically frivolous. The press has also been attacking the Tadzhik SSR government finding the level of its musical propaganda weak.

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Similar criticisms and accusations have also been noted regarding the other USSR republics, including the Armenian SSR.

STRESS "RUSSIAN SPIRIT" -- Housaper, 14 Aug 51

The USSR has started an intensive propaganda campaign to instill "Russian spirit" in the peoples of the USSR republics, "to make the various groups like the Russians and accept their leadership and guidance." It is impressed on them daily that the Russians are the most brilliant of all the nations forming the USSR: for example, "The Russian is blessed with superior intelligence, strong character, and patience. During the war Russia was the directing power of the Communist republics." The 194 USSR nationalities make a semblance of giving public recognition to this attitude. However, in reality, they strongly resent it.

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